

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 03953 01 OF 02 272235Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 EB-08 INR-10 SP-02
INRE-00 SSO-00 /050 W
-----076550 272344Z /73
O 272040Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 CARACAS 3953

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECIN VE
SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT--LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PEREZ
TO PRESIDENT CARTER

1. BELOW FIND AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF A
LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ OF VENEZUELA,
ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT CARTER. THE ORIGINAL LETTER IS
BEING HAND CARRIED TO WASHINGTON MAY 1 BY DR LUIGI
EINAUDI OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE (ARA/PPC).

2. BEGIN TEXT
MOST EXCELLENT
JIMMY CARTER
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON

ESTEEMED MR PRESIDENT:

THE COMPLEX OF THEMES WHICH WE EXAMINED DURING
YOUR MOST PLEASANT VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY, IN THE TIME
AVAILABLE FOR THE CONVERSATIONS, DID NOT PERMIT US TO
TREAT OTHER THEMES OF MUTUAL INTEREST, SUCH AS COOPERATION
IN THE CARIBBEAN, WHICH WE HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED DURING
MY VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AND AGREED ON A TENTATIVE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 03953 01 OF 02 272235Z

PROGRAM.

SINCE WE AGREED TO MAINTAIN REGULAR CORESPONDENCE
ON SUBJECTS OF CONCERN TO OUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS,
I SEE AS THE MOST APPROPRIATE THEME AT THIS TIME FOR
THIS PERIODIC INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN YOU AND ME
THAT WHICH DEALS WITH THE PROGRAM OF COOPERATION IN THE

CARIBBEAN AREA WHICH WE HAVE DECIDED TO PROMOTE WITH THE ACTIVE COLLABORATION OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND OF REGIONAL AND WORLD FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

I DO NOT THINK IT NECESSARY TO REPEAT THE MOTIVES WHICH LED ME TO PROPOSE TO YOU THAT WE UNDERTAKE THE JOINT INITIATIVE WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN OCCUPYING THE ATTENTION OF OUR ADMINISTRATIONS AND WHICH HAS BEEN CHANNLED THROUGH THE SO-CALLED "CARIBBEAN GROUP" COORDINATED BY THE WORLD BANK INCOOPERATION WITH THE MONETARY FUND, THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. I ONLY WISH TO REITERATE AT THIS TIME MY CONVICTION THAT IT IS INDISPENSABLE TO ACT QUICKLY BUT AT THE SAME TIME WITH ALL THE CARE THAT THE SITUATION MERITS. THE SITUATION COULD NOT BE MORE DELICATE, I NEED ONLY MENTION WHAT IS NOW HAPPENING TO SOME OF THE COUNTRIES OF THAT AREA, BE IT POLITICALLY OR ECONOMICALLY, SUCH AS ANTIGUA, BELIZE, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GUYANA, HAITI, THE JAMAICA. THE SITUATION IS NO LESS DRAMATIC FOR THOSE MAY SMALL ISLANDS WHICH HAVE RECENTLY REACHED OR ARE ON THE WAY TO REACHING, THE STATUS OF INDEPENDENT NATIONS WHEN THEIR TERRITORIES AND POPULATIONS DO NOT OFFER ANY CERTAINTY OF SELF SUPPORTING THEIR OWN DEVELOPMENT AND SAFEGUARDING THEIR SOVEREIGNTY. I AM ALLUDING, AMONG OTHERS, TO DOMINICA, GURENADA, MONTSERRAT, ST LUCIA AND ST VINCENT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CARACA 03953 01 OF 02 272235Z

NOTWITHSTANDING THAT MY COUNTRY GRANTS, WITHOUT AN RESERVATIONS, THE RESPECT MERITED BY AN SOVEREIGN STATE, INDEPENDENT OF THE HISTROIC CIRCUMSTANCES OF ITS CREATION AND ITS ECONOMIC AND OTHER REALIITIES, IT IS A FAITHFUL ADHERENT TO NON-INTERVENTION AND NON-INVOLVEMENT IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF EVERY COUNTRY, AND WE WELL KNOW THE SENSITIVITIES OF NEW COUNTRIES OF THIS AREA CONCERNING THIS SUBJECT. FOR THESE REASONS IT SEEMS IMPORTANT TO ME TO EXPERESS TO YOU MY OPINION CONCERNING THE GUIDELINES ON WHICH OUR REPRESENTATIVES, JOINTLY WITH THE INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS AND THOSE WHO OUGHT TO HAVE THE GREATEST INTEREST IN THIS PROGRAM, THAT IS, THE BENEFICIARIES THEMSELVES, SHOULD AGREE UPON, IT IS EXTEREMELY IMPORTANT TO DO THIS IN ORDER NOT TO DISTORT THE ESSENTIAL OBJECTIVE OF THE INITIATIVE EITHER THROUGH THE VERY RESPECTABLE CRITERIA THAT OTHER COUNTRIES DESIROUS OF COOPERATING COULD PROVIDE, OR BECAUSE IT MIGHT BEMODIFIED BY THE TRADITIONAL PRACTICES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH DESIGN PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR OWN FOCUS AND TRADITION. FREQUENTLY, POSITIVE INITIATIVES BEGIN TO ACQUIRE

PATRENALISTIC CHARACTERISTICS OR, WHAT CAN BE EVEN MORE PREJUDICIAL, TURN INTO LITTLE DREAMS IN A GAME OF POLITICAL CONDITIONS WHICH ENDS UP CAUSING GREATER PROBLEMS THAN THOSE WHICH IT INTENDED TO SOLVE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 03953 02 OF 02 272316Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 EB-08 INR-10 SP-02
INRE-00 SSO-00 /050 W
-----077725 272345Z /73

O 272040Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 CARACAS 3953

OUR BASIC CRITERION FOR THE ELABORATION OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO TRY TO STABILIZE, THROUGH APPROPRIATE INJECTIONS OF SOFT FINANCIAL RESOURCES, PROGRAMS OF NATIONAL OR SUB-REGIONAL INTEREST IN THE AREA WHICH, ON THE ONE HAND, COUNTERACT AND REDUCE THE ACUTUAL LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT, AND, ON THE OTHER, SERVE AS A POSITIVE FACTOR IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION OF THOSE COUNTRIES.

I CONSIDER IT IMPERATIVE THAT IT BE THE COUNTRIES INTERESTED, INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY, THROUGH THEIR OWN MECHANISMS OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION, SUCH AS CARICOM, EAST CARIBBEAN COMMON MARKET, CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, OR WHATEVER THEY MIGHT AGREE TO ESTABLISH, ASSISTED TECHNICALLY BY EXPERTS FURNISHED BY THE OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAM, WHICH ESTABLISH THE FORM AND ORIENTATION OF THE PROGRAMS TO BE ESTABLISHED. IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT THIS NOT BECOME JUST ANOTHER PROGRAM IMPOSED BY A SMALL GROUP OF COUNTRIES DISPOSED TO COOPERATE WITHOUT BEING TOO CONCERNED ABOUT OBTAINING THE VIEWS OF THOSE TO BE BENEFITED. PERHAPS THE ONLY CONDITION THAT I MIGHT DARE TO SUGGEST IS THAT THE BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES DEFINE THEIR OWN ASPIRATIONS IN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 03953 02 OF 02 272316Z

THIS PROGRAM WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ACTIONS
DIRECTED TOWARD THE INTEGRATION OF THEIR ECONOMIES AND,
SUBSEQUENTLY, TOWARD A GREATER LINKAGE WITH OTHER
REGIONAL INTEGRATION MOVEMENTS.

NEXT MAY (SIC) THE "CARIBBEAN GROUP" WILL MEET
AGAIN IN WASHINGTON TO DEFINE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FUND,
ITS MAGNITUDE AND MODALITIES. OUR REPRESENTATIVE WILL
HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO STATE CLEARLY THE CONCEPTS EXPRESSED
IN THIS LETTER AND WE HOPE THAT THEY COINCIDE IN GOOD
MEASURE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE, BEARING
IN MIND THE CONSIDERATIONS DISCUSSED ABOVE.

IN PARTICULAR, WE WISH THAT DIVISIVE CRITERIA NOT
BE ADOPTED FOR CATEGORIES OF COUNTRIES, BEARING IN MIND ONLY
THE CONCEPT OF "PER CAPITA INCOME" OR THE RIGID CONDITIONS
FOR ACCESS TO RESOURCES BASED ON THE ORTHODOX CONCEPTS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WHICH REQUIRE
ADJUSTMENTS TO ECONOMIC POLICY WHICH DO NOT CORRESPOND
TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES.

WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THE "CREDIT ASSISTANCE FUND"
WILL BE ONLY TRANSITORY, WITH AN EXISTENCE OF NOT
LESS THAN FIVE YEARS, AND THAT THE TERMS OF FINANCING
COULD BE EXTENDED BY STAGES UP TO 20 YEARS WITH CONCESSIONAL
OR CONVENTIONAL CONDITIONS ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS,
WE WILL HAVE TO DETERMINE AS WE GO ALONG WHAT THE
RESULTS ARE IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE THE NECESSARY
ADJUSTMENTS AND TO DELINEATE THE FINAL COURSES OF ACTION.

CORDIALLY,

CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CARACA 03953 02 OF 02 272316Z

PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA.

END QUOTE.
VAKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA03953
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780181-0185
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780411/aaaaaiws.tel
Line Count: 218
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f943bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2833178
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT--LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PEREZ TO PRESIDENT CARTER
TAGS: ECIN, PDIP, VE, (CARTER, JIMMY), (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f943bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014